
Question 13 — Properties and Performance of Textiles (10 marks)

- (a) Outline the process of digital printing.

2

Digital printing is where fabric is printed on using a printer (inkjet). Usually connected to a computer. The fabric goes in one end and is moved as a single cone of paper ink/paste is transferred onto the fabric.

- (b) What are the advantages and disadvantages of using digital printing in fabric design?

3

Advantages - time efficient, no manual labour (reduced labour costs), accurate, and exact design each time.

Disadvantages - cost to repair and replace machinery, and size of products limited.

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Question 13 continues on page 10

Question 13 (continued)

- (c) How have the characteristics of washable webs led to a greater variety of products being available? 5

The characteristics of washable webs have led to a greater variety of products being available as they are absorbent, biodegradable, easily disposable etc. This has led to the development of various disposable cleaning cloths for around the home, office etc. and also in the medical industry with the use of surgical masks, surgical gowns and even being used in some medical procedures. These show just how much of a development washable webs, and how the variety of products available is dramatically increasing due to its characteristics, not only in the textile industry but also in the medical industry.

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End of Question 13